



## Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

3 March 2005

National Ocean Service

National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

Last bulletin: February 24, 2005

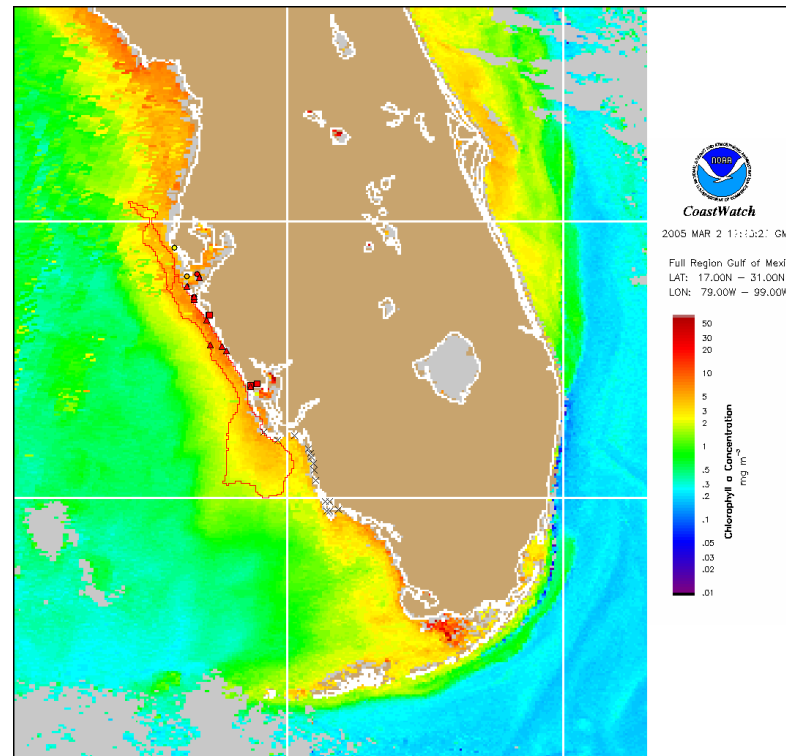
**Conditions:** A harmful algal bloom has been identified from southern Pinellas to northern Lee Counties. Very low impacts today through Sunday and very low to low impacts on Monday are likely in southern Pinellas County. Manatee and Sarasota Counties are expected to have low impacts today through Sunday, and low to moderate impacts on Monday; high impacts possible Saturday night. Low impacts today through Sunday with possible moderate impacts on Monday in Charlotte County. Northern Lee County is expected to have very low impacts today through Sunday, possible low impacts on Monday.

**Analysis:** Satellite imagery from March 3 shows a bloom extending alongshore from southern Pinellas to northern Lee counties. FWRI, Mote Marine Lab, Lee County, Collier County, and Rookery Bay Reserve samples from February 28 identified a high concentration of *K. brevis* in Sarasota County, and several medium concentrations in Manatee and Sarasota counties. Manatee and Charlotte counties had reports of respiratory irritation and fish kills. From Charlotte Harbor the bloom extends southeast to 26°N, 82°W and south west to 26°12'N, 82°24'W. Imagery indicates chlorophyll concentration over 6  $\mu\text{g/L}$  south of Charlotte Harbor at 26°24'N, 82°13'W. Imagery shows chlorophyll concentration over 10  $\mu\text{g/L}$  at 27°16'N, 82°39'W, 28 km (18 miles) west of Venice. The bloom is expected to intensify due to upwelling-favorable conditions. Southward transport and an increase in western extent of the bloom are likely.

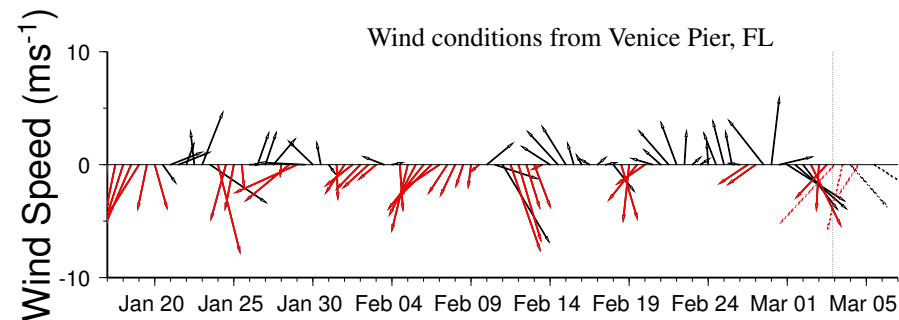
Bronder, Fisher

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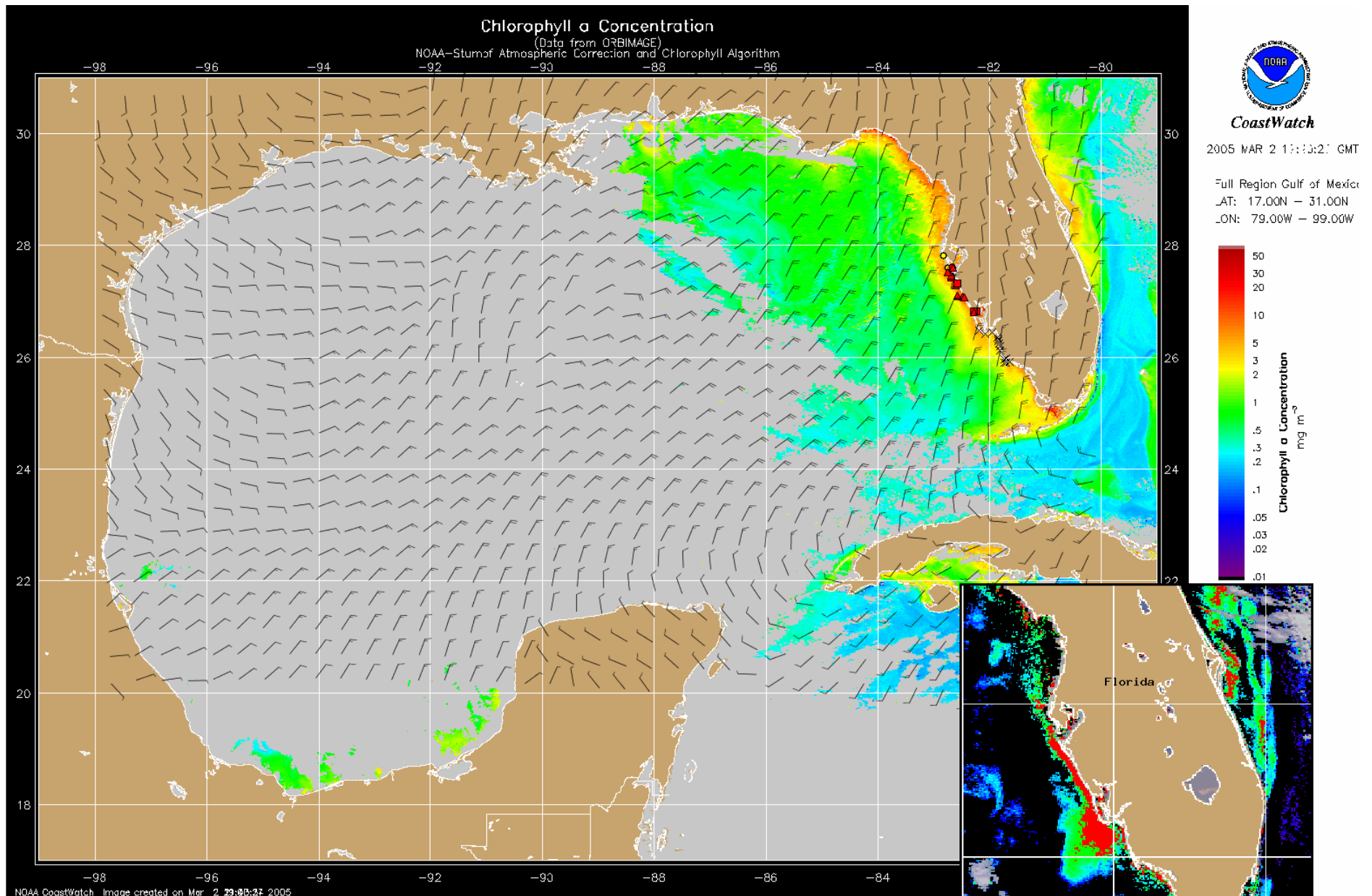


Chlorophyll concentration from satellite with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from March 4, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from measurements made on buoys. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

SW Florida: Winds are forecasted to be easterly (15-20 kts, 8-10 m/s) today and tonight, northeasterly (10-15 kts, 5-8 m/s) tomorrow and tomorrow night, northerly (5-10 kts, 3-5 m/s) Saturday, northwesterly (10-15 kts, 5-8 m/s) Saturday night, northerly (15 kts, 8 m/s) Sunday, and easterly becoming southwesterly (5-10 kts, 3-5 m/s) Monday.



Chlorophyll concentration from satellite and forecast winds for March 4, 2005 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from March 4, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).

Blooms shown in red (see p. 1 analysis and image for interpretation)